GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3187
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
COAL DEPOSITS IN VIDHARBHA AREA OF MAHARASHTRA
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has found large coal deposits in the Vidharbha area of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any plan for the exploration of these deposits in near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL & MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

(a) & (b): Exploration for locating coal deposits in the country is carried out by Geological Survey of India. Wardha Valley, Kamptee, Umrer, Bander, Nand and Bokhara coalfields are located in Maharashtra. The inventory of geological reserve in the coalfields of Maharashtra, as assessed By GSI, as on 01-01-2002 is given as under:-

(In billion tonnes)

Coalfield	Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
Wardha Valley	2.73	1.01	1.37	5.11
Kamptee	1.13	0.92	0.15	2.20
Umrer - Makardhokra	0.31			0.31
Bander	0.24	0.12		0.36
Nand	0.07			0.07
Bokhara	0.01		0.02	0.03
Total	4.49	2.05	1.54	8.08

(c) to (e): Sub-Group II of the Working Group on Coal & Lignite for formulation of X plan have worked out the programme of Regional/Promotional and Detailed Exploration to be carried out during X plan. The programme of Regional and Detailed Exploration in the coalfields of Maharashtra, during X plan is given as under:-

Nature of exploration	Coalfield	Likely grade	Likely Geological Reserves (Mt.)	Drilling meterage
Regional valley	Wardha	Inferior estimated	Not	5500
Promotional valley	Wardha	Inferior	825	32500
	Kamptee	Superior/Inferior	400	12000

Umrer Bander	Superior/Inferior	200	10000	
Sub total region/promotional		1425	60000	
Detailed valley	Wardha	Superior/Inferior	1023	71300
Umrer-Bander		Superior/Inferior	225	30500
Sub total detailed			1248	101800
Total			2673	161800

During X plan regional and promotional exploration will be carried out in the coalfields of Maharashtra with exploratory drilling of 60,000 meter which is likely to establish coal resource base of over 1425 million tonne in 'Indicated' category.

Detailed exploration will be carried in the coalfields of Maharashtra with 1,01,800 meter of drilling which is likely to establish reserves of about 1248 Mt. in the 'Proved' category during X plan.